
Editorial

While the philosophy of the *WPSJ* is to be forward looking, the return to four issues in the current volume provides a good excuse to compare the size and content of the present journal with these characteristics in 1980 – the last year before tri-annual production was adopted. In the corresponding issue, May 1980 (Volume 36: 2), the most striking difference is in its size, with 52 pages of 143 × 226 mm (5.6 × 8.5 inches) compared with the 124 pages of 170 × 244 mm (6.7 × 9.6 inches) today. Three reviews in the June 1980 issue occupied 34 pages, which contrasts with five reviews and a regional report on 87 pages of this issue. In 1980 items such as Association News and reports of Working Groups of the European Federation were well represented as were book reviews; however, forthcoming events listed only three items. Recent Publications focused on the contents of Volume 43 of *Archive für Geflügelkunde*. There was an obituary to one of the world's most famous poultry scientists – Alexis Romanoff (author of *The Avian Egg* and other books), retired Professor of Chemical Embryology at Cornell University.

At the end of 1980 Dr Robert Gordon retired from editorship and was succeeded by David Blaxland, who continued in post until his death in 1986. As did previous editors, both espoused the tradition of seeking to introduce improvements and both would have fully approved the return to four issues in 1997. Looking ahead, the increasing impact of modern information and communications technology will surely mean a particularly interesting and challenging time for all types of publication, including your journal.

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